June privately urged him to begin talks with Pakistan to lessen their tensions over their respective nuclear programme; if so, what is the truth in this report; and

(b) whether the President had also advised Prime Minister Benezir to begin 'more active' talks with Indian Government on nuclear issue; if so, whether the Government of India finds any positive response from Pakistan in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b) The Government have seen the reports, which appear inaccurate and speculative.

World Bank's Assistance for modernising technical education

932. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
KUMARI SAYEEDA KHATUN:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are taking two-five hundred million dollar from World Bank for modernisation and diversification of technical and polytechnical education in the country; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) what are the areas where the projects are likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) and (b) The Government are exploring the possibility of securing World Bank assistance to strengthen and modernise the polytechnic education system in the country. Discussions are being held with World Bank and State Governments for the preparation of a detailed project proposal indicating the quantum of assistance, institutions/ areas to be covered etc.

Suggestions for amending the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988

933. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU:
SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI:
THAKUR JAGATPAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the new Motor Vehicles Act came into effect from July, 1989;

(b) if so, whether a number of suggestions have been given for amending the Act;

(c) if answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, what are the total number of suggestions received by Government in this regard;

(d) the steps being taken by Government to implemet the Act; and

(e) what measures are being taken to check the rising prices as a result of implementation of the said Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Suggestions received pertain to provisions of the M.V. Act 1988 and the rules made thereunder. These relate to qualifications for the driving licence or age limits for vehicles, fitment of direction indicators in the motor cycles, overloading of vehicles, strictness in vehicle fitness and amounts of fees and fines in respect of traffic violations.

(d) Executive responsibility to implement provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act is vested in the State Governments/UT Administrations. They have been advised to organize implementation. Wide publicity has been given through Press/T.V./Radio regarding salient features of the provisions for information of the public.